

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC General Military Information from the Lossa Troop Training Grounds

EVALUATION [REDACTED] 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTENT 28 September to 17 October 1952 25X1

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1 DATE PREPARED 26 November 1952

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 25X1

REMARKS

REFERENCE COPY

DO NOT CIRCULATE

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[REDACTED]

1. At 10 a.m. on 28 September 1952, about 10 JS-3 tanks and 10 x 100-mm AT guns were emplaced on the edge of the woods 1 km southwest of Lossa (M 52/J 59). They fired individually toward the north. Trucks [REDACTED] and sedan [REDACTED] occupied by drivers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia shuttled between the tanks and the guns.

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2. At noon on 8 October, steel-helmeted traffic control posted personnel wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and armed with submachine guns were seen on duty in Vogelsberg, 6 km south of Koelleda (M 52/J 49). They remained on duty until 7 a.m. on the following day without being relieved. At 9 p.m. on 8 October, a column of about 15 trucks [REDACTED] passed through Vogelsberg coming from the direction of Buttstaedt and proceeding in the direction of Orlishausen. Each vehicle was occupied by 8 to 15 soldiers. A curfew was placed on the civilian population. From midnight till 7 a.m., vehicles passing through Vogelsberg included about 1,200 trucks, each occupied by 8 to 10 soldiers, 78 guns towed by trucks, 10 field kitchens and 10 trucks towing flatbed trailers each carrying a pontoon, 5 x 2 meters, and 2 sedans. [REDACTED]

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3. On 12 and 17 October, trucks [REDACTED] each occupied by 8 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia [REDACTED] went from the Lossa railroad station to Camp Lossa. At 2 p.m. on 17 October, 75 JS-3 tanks were unloaded at the Lossa railroad station and parked close to the station. A railroadman stated that, on 13 and 15 October, a shipment of tanks and a shipment of guns respectively were unloaded at the railroad station.<sup>2</sup>

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4. At noon on 3 October, 60 to 70 trucks, each occupied by 5 to 6 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, 10 x 100-mm AT guns and 2 field kitchens were entrained at the Lossa railroad station. A railroadman stated that one train carrying tanks, guns and trucks was dispatched daily in the direction of Mecklenburg.<sup>3</sup>

CLASSIFICATION SECRET [REDACTED]

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1. [ ] Comment. Although the shipments were westbound, there is no doubt, that the units involved moved from Lossa to the area of Dessau for the field exercise of the Eighth Gds Army. This is also indicated by the date given. A report by two other sources indicated that the 21st Gds Mecz Div marched to its assembly area south of the Elbe River via Eisleben and Halle and in the direction of Koethen during the period from 6 to 9 October. [ ]

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[ ] the columns from Lossa were probably ordered to reach Highway No 80 near Sangerhausen via Artern.

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2. [ ] Comment. On 16 and 17 October, seven trains [ ] went from Nedlitz west of Wiesenburg to Halle. [ ] according to this source, Halle must be considered the last major station before the station of destination, there is a possibility that the tanks which arrived in Lossa on 17 October came from these trains.

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3. [ ] Comment. This information was confirmed by shipments of the 21st Gds Mecz Div, [ ] which went from Lossa to Halle and by trains [ ] which went from Lossa to Raguhn, south of Dessau. [ ]

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